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PTO/SB/21 (09-04)

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<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b>  (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/816,173	
	Filing Date	4/1/2004	
	First Named Inventor	James F. Zucherman	
	Art Unit	3738	
	Examiner Name		
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	12	Attorney Docket Number	KLYC-01087US1

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): 1. One (1) cited document; and 2. a return Postcard.
<div>Remarks</div>		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT			
Firm Name	Fliesler Meyer LLP		Customer No. 23910
Signature			
Printed name	Michael L. Robbins		
Date	May 15, 2006	Reg. No.	54,774

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below: Fax. No.:			
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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Attorney Docket No.: KLYC-01087US1  
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application

Inventor(s): Zucherman et al.

Appl. No.: 10/816,173

Confirm. No.: 7894

Filed: 04/01/2004

Title: CERVICAL INTERSPINOUS PROCESS  
DISTRACTION IMPLANT AND METHOD OF  
IMPLANTATION

PATENT APPLICATION

Art Unit: 3738

Examiner:

Customer No. 23910

**CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8**

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(Attorney Signature)

Michael L. Robbins, Reg. No. 54,774

Signature Date: May 15, 2006

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.56**

Mail Stop AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

It is requested that the information identified in this statement be considered by the Examiner and made of record in the above-identified application. This statement is not intended to represent that a search has been made or that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56. If this is a continuation, divisional or continuation-in-part application, it is understood that the Examiner will consider all information which was considered by the Office in a parent application. MPEP §609. Such information therefore is not listed herein unless it is desired that the information be printed on a patent issuing from the subject application.

***Enclosed with this statement are the following:***

- ☒ Form PTO-1449. The Examiner is requested to initial the form and return it to the undersigned in accordance with M.P.E.P. §609.
- ☒ As allowed under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2)(ii), no copies of the U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications are enclosed, unless required by the office.
- ☐ As allowed under 37 CFR §1.98(d), copies of cited documents noted with an asterisk are not enclosed because they were previously submitted in U.S. Patent Application No. \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_, which

is relied on for an earlier effective filing date under 35 USC §120, and which included an Information Disclosure Statement that complies with 37 CFR §1.98(a) through (c).

☒ A copy of an International Search Report dated May 11, 2005 for Application No. PCT/US04/16004.

☐ A copy of an International Preliminary Examination Report dated \_\_\_\_\_ for Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.

☐ If any of the cited/submitted documents is in a foreign language, a concise explanation of relevance is provided pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3)(i). For foreign language documents cited in a search report by a foreign patent office, the requirement for a concise explanation of relevance is satisfied by the submission herewith of an English language version of the search report. MPEP §609A(3). If a written English-language translation of a non-English language document, or portion thereof, is within the possession, custody or control of, or is readily available to any individual designated in §1.56(c), a copy of the translation accompanies this statement, 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3)(ii), and satisfies the requirement for a concise explanation of relevance, MPEP §609A(3).

***This statement should be considered because:***

☒ **37 C.F.R. §1.97(b).** This statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, subsection (b) because:

- (1) It is being filed within three months of the filing date of an application other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d);  
-- OR --
- (2) It is being filed within 3 months of entry of a national stage;  
-- OR --
- (3) It is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits,  
-- OR --
- (4) It is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under 37 C.F.R. §1.114.

☐ **37 C.F.R. §1.97(c).** Although it may not qualify under subsection (b), this statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, subsection (c) because:

- (1) It is being filed before the mailing date of a FINAL Office Action, a Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the subject application, whichever occurs first.  
-- AND (check at least one of the following) --  
☐ (1) It is accompanied by a STATEMENT as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e).  
-- OR --  
☐ (2) It is accompanied by the \$180 fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).

— **37 C.F.R. §1.97(d).** Although it may not qualify under subsection (b) or (c), this statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, subsection (d) because:

- (1) It is being filed on or before payment of the Issue Fee;  
-- AND --
- (2) It is accompanied by a STATEMENT as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e);  
-- AND --
- (3) It is accompanied by the \$180 fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).

— **PTA Statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.704(d).** Each item of information contained in the *Information Disclosure Statement* was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and this communication was not received by any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of the *Information Disclosure Statement*.

— **37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1).** THE UNDERSIGNED ATTORNEY HEREBY STATES THAT each item of information contained in this *Information Disclosure Statement* was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this *Information Disclosure Statement*; or


— **37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(2).** THE UNDERSIGNED ATTORNEY HEREBY STATES THAT no item of information contained in this *Information Disclosure Statement* was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing this statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this *Information Disclosure Statement* was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

✓ **Fee Authorization.** The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-1325.

Respectfully submitted,

FLIESLER MEYER LLP

Date: 5/15/06

By:   
Michael L. Robbins  
Reg. No. 54,774

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Sheet \_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_

Form PTO-1449  
(Substitute)U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEAttorney Docket Number  
KLYC-01087US1Application/Patent Number  
10/816,173**Information Disclosure Statement**  
**BY APPLICANT**  
(Use several sheets if necessary)Applicant/Patent Owner  
Zucherman, et al.Filing/Issue Date  
04/01/2004Group Art Unit  
3738

## U.S. PATENTS

Examiner Initial	Patent Number	Issue Date	First Named Inventor	Class	Subclass	Filing Date
	5,458,641	10/17/1995	Ramirez Jimenez			
	5,702,455	12/30/1997	Saggar			
	6,190,387	02/20/2001	Zucherman et al.			
	6,746,484	06/08/2004	Liu et al.			

## U.S. PATENT PUBLICATIONS

Examiner Initial	Patent Application Publication Number	Publication Date	Applicant

## PENDING U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS

Examiner Initial	Application Number	Filing Date	First Named Inventor	Petition to Expunge? Yes   No

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial		Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Trans- lation	
							Yes	No

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Include author (if any), title, publisher and place of publication, date and pertinent pages)


Examiner	Date Considered
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

\*1 = Copy not submitted because it was submitted in prior application SN \_\_/\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, relied on under 35 USC §120.

\*\*2 = Copy not submitted because it was submitted in prior application SN \_\_/\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, relied on under 35 USC §120.